

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY
VETERANS' RECOGNITION SUBCOMMITTEE**

Pursuant to Section 19.84, Wis. Stats., a regular meeting of the Brown County Veterans' Recognition Subcommittee was held on Tuesday, November 20, 2018 at 4:30 pm in Room 201 of the Northern Building, 305 E. Walnut Street, Green Bay, Wisconsin.

PRESENT: Chair Erickson, Supervisor Brusky, Louise Dahlke, Jerry Polus

EXCUSED: Ed Koslowski, Kerry Metoxen, Ken Corry

1. Call Meeting to Order.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Bernie Erickson at 4:30 pm.

2. Approve/Modify Agenda.

Motion made by Duane Pierce, seconded by Joan Brusky to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Approve/Modify Minutes of September 18, 2018.

Louise Dahlke pointed out a typographical error in Item 6. The word "bank" should be "band".

Motion made by Louise Dahlke, seconded by Joan Brusky to approve as corrected. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

At this time, Chair Erickson introduced Jason Habeck, Resch Center Sales Manager, who is responsible for the Veterans Breakfast the Gamblers put on. Erickson mentioned to him that this subcommittee is always looking for new members so Habeck is here to get a feel for the group before he makes any commitments. Habeck spoke about the First Annual Pancake and Porkie Breakfast for Veterans that was held on November 8 and attended by about 300 veterans. There was really good support with local media and they partnered with several organizations. Money raised at the event will be used for the DAV transportation program and Habeck noted that since he has started working with the DAV, about \$118,000 has been raised. He said 100% of the money raised will go back into DAV programming and stay local.

Habeck also spoke about the veterans event the Gamblers will be holding on December 8. They are offering a free ticket for all veterans or active members of the military to come to the Gamblers game. Vets or active duty military can call the Resch Center to get tickets in advance or can get one the evening of the event. There has been great support for this event and they have worked with a lot of great businesses. The goal is to raise \$35,000 this year, but to do that, they need to have the support of the various different veterans groups. Habeck also noted any Purple Heart recipient can come to any game at no charge and those veterans will receive four complimentary tickets to the December 8 game. He would like to see 10% of the Purple Heart recipients attend. There will be a number of things going on throughout the game to honor veterans and there will also be a Vietnam reflection wall in the lounge and, in addition, Marines will be on hand to collect Toys for Tots.

Brusky asked how the money is made. Habeck said players wear special helmets and jerseys that are auctioned off after the game and 100% of that goes back to the DAV. In addition, they go out to local businesses and ask them to pay \$100 for every goal scored. At this time there are 25 businesses taking part in that so \$2500 will be collected for every goal that is scored. There are also sponsors for the game and businesses are doing 10% days and then there will also be donations made from the ticket proceeds.

Locations for the next breakfast were discussed and several ideas throughout the County were mentioned. Erickson said he will contact the Museum to see if there is a possibility to hold the breakfast there. Habeck said he will continue to work on the breakfast to make it a great event and said he is all about cross promoting events. Erickson added the Veterans Office has contact information for all of the veteran groups within the County and can probably distribute information to all of the organizations quite easily.

Habeck also talked about the National Guard unit that is being deployed and indicated they have piggy backed onto that by renting out Ariens Hill for the men and women and their families to come out and skate for free following the sendoff at the Atrium. They will offer free skating, hot chocolate and cookies for the kids and they are also trying to get a Santa there with a photographer to drop box photos so soldiers can take the photos with them.

4. Update re: Honor Rewards Program.

Polus said there are currently 81 businesses participating. As of this time 313 Honor Rewards cards have been issued and that number continues to grow as we attend various events in the community to promote the program. Polus explained the program and how to enroll to Habeck.

5. Discussion re: Flight of Champions.

Erickson informed there were at least 2,500 people on hand at the airport to welcome back the Flight of Champions. Polus said there is a wrap up meeting regarding the Honor Flight scheduled for next week and he anticipates discussing doing it again next year. There was nice TV coverage for the event as well.

6. Report from CVSO Jerry Polus.

Polus informed interviews for his job will start next week but, unfortunately, the new person cannot start until after Polus leaves so there will be no overlap for training.

7. Report from Committee Members Present (Erickson, Brusky, Corry, Dahlke, Haskins, Koslowski, Metoxen, Pierce).

-Erickson did not have anything to report.

-Brusky was curious if there has been any feedback on Veterans Day. Erickson said he saw a copy of the newspaper article and forwarded it to the Press Gazette and the Ashwaubenon Press and asked that they publish it. Both papers published a good article after receiving it from Deputy Executive Jeff Flynt.

-Dahlke said the Fair Association annual meeting was held in October, so there won't be much new happening until they start meeting again in March. Erickson asked her how having the event on Sunday worked out from the Fair's perspective. Dahlke responded it worked well for the Fair and Erickson felt Sunday worked out well too. He said he did hear some people ask about the change in days, but he heard a lot of people say they really liked having it on Sunday when they could bring their families for a reduced admission cost. Dahlke said next year the Fair is scheduled for August 14 – 18.

-Pierce informed Post 57 will be doing their meat raffle on December 1 at 3:00 pm at Duck Creek Pub. There will also be a veterans get together put on by Concordia on December 5 at 11:00 am and he plans on attending and will give a report at the next meeting. Pierce also mentioned that Wreaths Across America is scheduled for December 15. The LZ Christmas party at the Pearly Gates will be held on December 17 beginning at 5:00 pm, but those who wish to eat should arrive earlier. There will be a lot of prizes and he encouraged everyone to attend.

8. Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law. None.

9. Adjourn.

Motion made by Duane Pierce, seconded by Joan Brusky to adjourn at 5:21 pm. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Loehlein

Administrative Coordinator

Therese Giannunzio

Administrative Specialist